

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, July 27, 2011

Present

Richard Kamins
Barbara Arafah
Jenny Hawkins Lecce (Sec.)
Joyce Kirkpatrick (Chair)
Cassandra Day
Lee Godburn
Bob Santangelo (Council)
David Bauer (Council)

Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff

Absent

Charlotte McCoid
Lea Tomaszewski
Fran Ganguli
Charlotte McCoid

Call to order

Commission Chair Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. at the Municipal Building, room 208, Middletown, CT.

Public session

Jennifer Alexander, 110 Washington Street. Jennifer brought two things to the MCA. The first is Midnight on Main 2012, Dec. 31, 2011, the premiere first night celebration in downtown Middletown with music, dance, family etc. The downtown area for the 1st year encompasses from Court to Grand Streets and using between 10 and 15 venues. Hoping for 5000 for first event from 3 p.m. to Midnight. The second item Jennifer brought to our attention was Green Street Arts Center's Young Women's Leadership Institute, which had a small group of pre-teen and young teen girls and they are building a sculpture or display of some kind in late August around the 26 -28th and wished for the Commission's endorsement/support.

Minutes from June 22, 2011

Minutes: delete Richard Kamins from "Absent" list. Change Barbara's note about the opera to read as: CT Lyric Opera, brought by the Greater Middletown Concert Assoc.

Motion by Richard to accept minutes with corrections, Lee seconds. Carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair

Commission Chair Kirkpatrick thanked the Commissioners and Staff and spoke of the accomplishments of the Arts Commission over the past two years.

Old Business

Budget Report-

- i) 2010-2011 Final Year End Report: completed and distributed.
- ii) 2011-2012 Budget Report: completed and distributed.

Program Update- Stephan noted the following upcoming meetings:

- i) Arts Stakeholders Group:
- ii) Arts & Creative Industries Council (Chamber of Commerce): on summer break, but September 9th is the first of the new year and the first meeting will include a demonstration of the new Arts2Go.org website.

Website- Arts 2Go.org: training sessions being offered at Russell Library on Friday, July 29. The goal is to have the site go online on July 29th.

Ethics Code- Gift Limits, no news.

Committee Reports

Public Art Committee

- i) Catalogue of Public Art Collection: in progress. Stephan needs to collect the student work from Charlotte and Robin Price still needs to return the artwork. Kelly Robinson from Public Works replaced burnt out lights in display case.

Planning & Projects Committee:

Arts Walk at Riverview Plaza : Arts Walk has gotten enthusiastically embraced by those who wished to participate, and now ways to refine the events are being discussed and developed. A vision for this space is a permanent overhead structure that could be used for multiple purposes including special events, farmers market.

Nominating Committee

- i) Slate of Officers: Lee Godburn, Chair, Cassandra Day, Vice Chair, Jenny Hawkins Lecce, Secretary.
- ii) Commission Vacancies: One nomination awaiting the Mayor's appointment. As the new Chair of the Commission, Lee will present the nominee's name, presented to the Commission by Committee Chair Richard Kamins, to the Mayor.
- iii) Review Bylaws – no action taken, not discussed

Other: (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee):

New Business

Election of Officers 2011-2012 - Vote unanimous in favor of the slate.

Open Air Market – August 28th, 2011, Commissioner sign ups needed to volunteer for the booth

August Meeting – Richard made a motion to postpone/cancel August meeting, Barbara seconded. Carried unanimously.

Other:

The Green Street Arts Center's Young Women's Leadership Institute art project/sculpture display in City Hall to be displayed beginning around August 26 – August 28. David makes a motion that we endorse and recommend that Public Works allow the temporary - for one month - display of the installation from the Green Street Arts Center's Young Women's Leadership Institute Summer 2011 class. Richard seconds. Carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous

Thank you note from Mt. Olive Church.

Stephan notes that the Business to Business Expo is coming up in the fall.

Adjournment

Richard moved to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. seconded by David.

Commission will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on September 28, 2011.

Respectfully submitted
Jenny Hawkins Lecce